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10/23/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Applicant: Chakrabarti)	Art Unit: 2176
)	
Serial No.: 09/523,639)	Examiner: Nguyen
)	
Filed: March 10, 2000)	AM9-98-128
)	
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTED)	October 14, 2003
AUTONOMOUS MAINTENANCE OF)	750 B STREET, Suite 3120
BIDIRECTIONAL HYPERLINK METADTA ON)	San Diego, CA 92101
THE WEB AND SIMILAR HYPERMEDIA)	
REPOSITORY)	

FASCIMILE TRANSMITTAL FOR RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner For Patents and Trademarks
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2003, attached herewith are the following:

- (1) A response to Office Action in 2 pages.

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2003, the following remarks are submitted. All pending claims (1-16) have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Lee et al. in view of Mullen-Schultz. At the time the present invention was made, this application and Mullen-Schultz were both commonly owned by IBM Corp., removing Mullen-Schultz as a reference and rendering the claims patentable.

In addition, contrary to the allegation in the Office Action that Lee et al. teaches accessing a table of inlinks to facilitate generating a list of sibling links based on the table, with each sibling link being an outlink of one of the inlinks in the table, the relied-upon section of Lee et al. simply discusses a hierarchy of links. There is no teaching or suggestion that the links are inlinks, much less that they are used in turn to generate a list of outlinks. For this further reason, the rejection is overcome.

1003-39.AMD

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Additionally, the rejections of various dependent claims that carry over the mistake above are overcome.

Furthermore, it follows that the allegation that it would have been obvious to combine the references as proposed is incorrect, since Lee et al. simply does not teach what has been relied upon to support the proposed combination. The Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned at (619) 338-8075 for any reason which would advance the instant application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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JLR:jg

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